



Proclamation *Presented*

In Recognition of World Tuberculosis Day

WHEREAS, Dr. Robert Koch discovered *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* on March 24, 1882, the bacterium that causes the disease we know as tuberculosis (TB); and

WHEREAS, this sentinel discovery led to the development of public health programs and infection control methods to prevent and control transmission of this infection that killed one out of every seven people in Europe and the Americas at that time, and one third of the world's population is infected with tuberculosis; and

WHEREAS, public health program goals are to identify and treat people with TB infections before they become active, completely treat people with active TB infections early, prevent transmission to others when an infected person is contagious, and evaluate individuals who may have been exposed to infectious TB for preventive treatment; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i TB Control Program uses "Directly Observed Therapy" by having outreach workers visit patients daily to deliver and observe them taking TB medications; and

WHEREAS, researchers continue working on improved diagnostic tools, vaccines, and therapies to safely treat the disease more effectively in a shorter amount of time.

WHEREAS, in an effort to raise awareness of the Global Plan to Stop TB, 2006-2015, the Stop TB Partnership established World TB Day on March 24th, on the anniversary of Dr. Koch's discovery of TB; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Department of Health joins with the global Stop TB Partnership whose theme for World TB Day this year is "TB Elimination: Together We Can!" This theme is an important reminder that progress in controlling TB will only be sustainable if local, state, national, and international partners from all sectors of our society join forces and collaborate together;

THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and **I, BRIAN SCHATZ**, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 24, 2011, as

"WORLD TB (Tuberculosis) DAY"

in Hawai'i, and encourage our citizens to be aware of tuberculosis signs and symptoms, and join the Hawai'i Department of Health to help eradicate the disease.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fifteenth day of March, 2011.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

BRIAN SCHATZ
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i

